ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH and SANITARY INSPECTOR OF THE URBAN DISTRICT OF WHITWORTH OF THE DISTRICT DURING 1941

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H. Howard, Printer and Stationer, 669 Market Street

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THE HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman—Councillor T. Groarke

Councillors S. Crossley, J.P. *(ex-officio)*

F. Holt, J.P.

G. Kershaw

A. Taylor

A. Hargreaves

Mrs. Isabella Heys

Medical Officer of Health:
Dr. J. W. McKinney, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector and Housing Inspector:
Mr. F. Cookson, M.S.I.A.

Clerk: Miss Julie Nolan

Clerk and Solicitor to the Council:
Mr. H. Hoyle

WHITWORTH URBAN DISTRICT.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year ended 31st December, 1941.

To the Chairman and Councillors of the Urban District of Whitworth.

GENTLEMEN :

I have the honour of presenting to you my Third Annual Report which you will notice has still to be curtailed.

I am pleased to state the General Health of the district has remained very good. The children show no signs of any under-nourishment and there have been no epidemics during the period under review.

A good number of the children have been Immunised against Diphtheria, but there still remain a good many of the parents who do not appreciate its benefits.

I wish again to tender my thanks to the Committee, my Colleagues and especially Mr. Cookson for all their support.

I am,

Yours faithfully,

JAMES W. McKINNEY, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Council Offices, Whitworth,
28th October, 1942.

VITAL STATISTICS.

		Total.	M.	F.	
Live Births	Legitimate	103	52	51	Birth-rate per 1000 of the estimated resident population: 14·9
	Illegitimate	6	4	2	
	Total ...	109	56	53	
Still Births		3	1	2	Rate per 1000 Total (live and stillbirths) 26
Deaths		115	60	55	Death-rate per 1000 of the estimated resident population ... ... 15·8

Deaths from Puerperal causes—

	Deaths	Death-rate per 1000 Total (live and still) births
Puerperal sepsis	—	—
Other puerperal causes	—	—
Total	—	—

Death-rate of Infants under one year of age:

Death-rate: 5 Males, 2 Female	7
Legitimate deaths	6
Illegitimate deaths	1
All infants per 1000 live births...	64
Legitimate infants per 1000 legitimate live births	58
Illegitimate infants per 1000 illegitimate live births	165

Deaths from Cancer (all ages) 13

Deaths from Measles (all ages) 0

Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) 0

Deaths from Diarrhœa (under 2 years of age) 1

Population 7,245 Mid 1941	Per 1000 of Estimated Population				Maternal Mortality Rate		
	Live Birth-rate	Crude Death-rate	Death-rate from Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	Death-rate from Cancer	Per 1000 Live Births	Per 1000 total (live and still) Births	Rate of Deaths under 1 year per 1000 Live Births
1940	13·6	21·1	0·95	2·32	Nil	Nil	90
1941	14·9	15·8	0·13	1·9	Nil	Nil	64
Previous Year	+1·3	—5·3	—0·82	—0·4	Nil	Nil	—26

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis)

During the Year 1941.

Disease	Cases Notified												Hospital	
	Total Cases at all Ages	Age Periods—Years										Total deaths	Total cases removed to Hospital	Deaths in Hospital of persons belonging to district.
		Under 1	1-3	3-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	65 & over			
Smallpox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	9	...	1	2	4	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...
Diphtheria, (including Membranous Croup) ...	7	1	...	...	4	...	...	1	...	1	...	2	7	2
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Acute Primary Pneumonia ... / Acute Influenzal Pneumonia...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	3	...	...
Puerperal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Pyrexia	4	...	...	...	...	..	...	3	1	...	...	...	3	...
Cerebro-Spinal Fever ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	..	...	1	...
Pneumococcal Meningitis..	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Acute Poliomyelitis... ...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Acute Polio-Encephalitis...	...	..	...	...	.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Encephalitis Lethargica...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dysentery	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum. .	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Erysipelas	1	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Malaria — Contracted in this Country ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...
Malaria — Abroad	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Any other diseases *notifiable* in district, *e.g.* :—														
Chicken-Pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles, excluding German measles ...	13	1	4	2	4	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough	14	...	4	3	6	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Any other disease	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals	52	4	10	7	18	3	...	6	1	2	1	5	14	2

CAUSES OF DEATH.

	M.	F.
All Causes	60	55
Enteric fever	...	...
Small-pox	...	...
Measles	...	...
Scarlet fever	...	...
Whooping cough	...	..
Diphtheria	1	1
Influenza	...	...
Meningococcal meningitis	...	...
Respiratory Tuberculosis	1	...
Other Tuberculosis	2	...
Cancer	6	7
Rheumatic fever	...	...
Diabetes	1	1
Cerebral hæmorrhage	5	8
Heart disease	15	19
Other circulatory diseases	6	8
Bronchitis	5	1
Pneumonia (all forms)	1	2
Other respiratory diseases	1	...
Peptic ulcer	2	...
Diarrhœa, &c. (under 2 years)	1	...
Appendicitis	...	1
Liver diseases	...	...
Other digestive diseases	2	1
Nephritis	1	...
Encephalitis Lethargica	...	...
Syphilis	...	...
Endocarditis and Premature Birth, etc.	1	...
Other accidents and diseases of pregnancy & parturition	1	1
Suicide	1	...
Road Traffic Accidents	1	...
Other deaths from violence	2	3
Other defined causes	...	...
Ill-defined or not known	4	2
Poliomyelitis	...	...
Polioencephalitis	...	...
Deaths of Infants under 1 year ... Total	5	2
Deaths of Infants under 1 year ... Legitimate ...	5	1
Deaths of Infants under 1 year ... Illegitimate ...	...	1
Live Births ... ... Total	56	53
Live Births ... ... Legitimate ...	52	51
Live Births ... ... Illegitimate ...	4	2
Stillbirths ... ... Total	1	2
Stillbirths ... ... Legitimate ...	1	2
Stillbirths ... ... Illegitimate ...	...	...

Population (Resident) ... 7245

INFANT MORTALITY.

DEATHS FROM STATED CAUSES AT VARIOUS AGES UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Under 1 Week	1-2 Weeks	2-3 Weeks	3-4 Weeks	Total under 1 Month	1-3 Months	3-6 Months	6-9 Months	9-12 Months	Total Deaths under One Year.
All Causes. Certified	1	1	1	0	3	1	1	...	1	6
All Causes. Uncertified ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Small-pox	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chicken-pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria and Croup ...	...	...	...	...	.	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diarrhœa	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteritis	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
Tuberculous Meningitis...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Abdominal Tuberculosis...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Tuberculous Disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Congenital Malformations	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Premature Birth ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Atrophy, Debility Marasmus...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Atelectasis...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Injury at Birth	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Syphilis	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Rickets	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Meningitis *not Tuberculous*	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	..	1
Convulsions	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Gastritis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Laryngitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pneumonia (all forms) ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.	...	1	1
Suffocation...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Influenza	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Endocarditis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..
Pemphigus...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Accident	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total.....	1	1	1	0	3	1	1	0	1	6

Births { legitimate...103, illegitimate 6 } 109

Deaths { legitimate infants, 6, illegitimate infants, 1 } 7

TUBERCULOSIS.

New Cases and Mortality during 1941.

Age Periods	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—1 year	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1—5 „	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
5—10 „	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
10—15 „	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
15—20 „	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...
20—25 „	1	...	1	1	...	...	...	...
25—35 „	1	3	...	...	1	...	...	...
35—45 „	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
45—55 „	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
55—65 „	1	...	...	...	1	..	...	...
65 and upwards.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals	5	5	3	1	2	0	1	0
	10		4		2		1	
	14				3			
Total 1940 ...	2	4	5	2	1	3	2	0
	6		7		4		2	

The following is a list of the occupations, if any, followed by notified cases during the year 1941.

	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary
Cotton operatives	4	—
Fisherman.....	1	—
Housewives	3	—
Warehouseman.....	—	1
School Children	—	1
Infant.....	—	1
Felt Worker	—	1
Woollen Worker	1	—
Quarry Workers	1	—
	10	4

GENERAL NOTES.

The **Birth Rate** is 14·9 as compared with 13.6 in 1940. The sex incidence is Males 56, Females 53.

The **Death Rate** is 15·8 (crude) as compared with 21·1 in 1940. The sex incidence is Males 60, Females 55.

The figures for **Infantile Mortality** show a rate of 64. This compares with 90 for 1940.

The **Maternal Mortality Rate** is Nil.

The various Rates are very satisfactory, the Birth Rate showing a slight increase, and the Death Rate and Infantile Mortality Rate being both decreased.

The children of the district are cared for at the Lancashire County Council School Clinic and come under the supervision of the Medical Officer of Health, who also carries out the duties of School Medical Officer.

School children attend for dental treatment also at the Lancashire County Council School Clinic. The service is much appreciated, as shown by the numbers who come in for treatment.

The Child Welfare Clinic has also a very large number of mothers and babies attending each weekly session, which is a very satisfactory feature

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

There has been no epidemic during the year, the number of cases notified being 52 as compared with 131 for 1940. Included in the cases notified are 27 of Measles and Whooping Cough.

Smallpox. Hospital accommodation is provided at the Bury and District Joint Hospital.

Other Infectious Diseases. Agreement with the County Borough of Rochdale for the treatment of these diseases at Marland Hospital.

Ambulance Facilities. Infectious cases are provided with an Ambulance by the Hospital. Non-infectious cases by the County Borough of Rochdale.

Pathological and Bacteriological Examination of specimens is carried out at St. Alban's Laboratory, Rochdale.

Diphtheria.

Number of cases notified 7
Number removed to Hospital ... 7
Number of deaths..... 2

None of the above cases had been protected against this disease by Immunisation.

The number of children Immunised against Diphtheria during the year was 387, of which 143 were pre school children and 244 having attained school age.

All **Scarlet Fever** cases, providing the necessary isolation treatment is available at home, are nursed at home and not removed to our Isolation Hospital.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum. Two cases were notified and a complete recovery was made in each case.

Sanitary Inspector's Annual Report.

To the Chairman and Members of the Urban District Council of Whitworth.

Mrs. Heys and Gentlemen:

I have pleasure in presenting to you my Annual Report for the year ending 31st December, 1941.

The report contains, if only briefly, details of the major activities of the department.

Civil Defence and Billeting have again called for a large amount of extra work.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

FRED COOKSON, C.R.S.I.,

Sanitary Inspector.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS.

Number of premises visited	140
Number of Sanitary Defects and Nuisances found	166
Number of sanitary improvements effected	142
Number of informal notices issued	37
Number of Statutory Notices issued	4

It was not found necessary to take legal proceedings in any case.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

The inspection of all premises used for the preparation and sale of foodstuffs has received attention during the year. No serious defects have been found, although I have had occasion in one or two instances to draw attention to the want of cleanliness in various minor instances, such as want of lime washing, etc.

Slaughter-houses.

There are seven licensed slaughterhouses in the district, but the Regional Slaughter Scheme of the Ministry of Food suspended the slaughter of animals for human food in these premises.

Visits are made to butchers' shops for the purpose of inspection of meat exposed for sale.

Small quantities of various foodstuffs have been surrendered as unfit for human consumption, and dealt with according to present instructions.

Bakehouses.

The number of premises being used as Bakehouses is 22, and inspections have been carried out from time to time. A satisfactory standard of cleanliness has been maintained.

Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

The provisions of the above Act relating to the general sampling of food are administered under the Act by the Lancashire County Council. When the County Council Sanitary Inspector is sampling in this district under the above-mentioned Act he is assured of my fullest co-operation at all times.

Milk and Dairies.

Little change has taken place either in the way of alterations or improvements to farm buildings during the year. Throughout the district there are 35 dairy farms and 39 cowkeepers (including dairy farms) representing approximately 400 cows. Periodical inspections of these premises have taken place.

19 samples were submitted for detecting supplies of Tuberculous milk, the samples representing the mixed milk of approximately 300 cows. It is very satisfactory to report that all were negative.

School Milk in addition was sampled quarterly, and here again results were negative.

WATER SUPPLY.

The sources of supply are from the Rochdale and Bacup Corporation Reservoirs. During the year six bacteriological examinations and six chemical analyses were made, and the results were satisfactory in all cases.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

There are two in the district, namely one Tripe Boiler and one Hide Curer. Both comply with the stipulated regulations of such trades and there has been no cause for complaint.

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION.

The sanitary accommodation of the area is as follows :—

Fresh Water Closets	1801
Waste Water Closets	164
Pail Closets	65
No. of houses on the Water Carriage system	2523

The Pail Closets existing are situated at the following premises :—

Dwelling-houses	37
Mills and Workshops	10
Farms	7
Churches, etc.....	11

With very few exceptions they cannot be converted to the fresh water carriage system, in view of the fact that they are situated in outlying parts where there is no sewer available.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

Domestic refuse is collected weekly from all dwelling-houses, the collection being carried out by motor waggon. The collection was maintained except on four occasions when, due to heavy snowfalls, etc., the service was delayed.

The refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping on land at Landgate. No complaint has been received as to any nuisance from the tip.

Salvage.

The recovery of all waste materials is of great importance, and the Government have now made compulsory salvage of most materials.

The following table shows the weights of materials dealt with during the twelve months under review.

	Tons	Cwts.
Waste Paper	46	0
Scrap Iron	9	15
Tins	23	10
Non-ferrous Metals	1	0
Textiles (Rags, String, etc.)	2	0
Household Bones	1	15
Bottles and Jars	2	0

One Baling Machine for waste paper has been constantly employed.

The collection of Kitchen Waste was instituted during the latter part of the year.

The aim of the department, although the salvage was of great necessity, was to ensure that the operations yielded a profit.

To increase the salvage scheme much publicity was given to the matter, but even so the results were short of that desired.

The following gives the details and cost of collection and disposal :—

Loads removed	1035
Cost per load	£1 0s. 6d.
Refuse in tons (estimated)	2588
Cost per ton	8/2d.
Number of houses and premises	2600
Cost per house per annum	8/2d.
Average length of haul	1½ miles

SEWAGE WORKS.

The method of treatment is by precipitation tanks, continuous filters and humus tanks. Three samples of effluent were taken by the Rivers Inspector, and in each instance were classed as "satisfactory."

During the year 1278 pressfuls of sludge have been dealt with, representing in dry cake weight 448 tons.

In conclusion, Gentlemen, I desire to acknowledge the courtesy and consideration extended to me by the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee, and also tender my sincere thanks to the Medical Officer of Health for his valued assistance rendered in the discharge of my duties.

Council Offices,
Whitworth.